PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q79279

Tomomi ENDO

Appln. No.: Unknown

Confirmation No.: Unknown Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: January 05, 2004 Examiner: Unknown

For: CONNECTOR PREVENTIVE OF INCOMPLETE FITTING

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98</u>

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attorney Docket No.: Q79279

Japanese Patent Publication No. JP-A-11-67348 is cited and discussed on page 1

of the specification.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such

document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does

not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise

remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present

application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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Date: January 5, 2004

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| Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO | | | Complete if Known | | | | |
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| | | | Applie | cation Number | Unknown | _ | |
| . INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | | | | | rmation Number | Unknown | |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | Filing | Date | January 05, 2004 | _ | |
| | | | | First N | Named Inventor | Tomomi ENDO | |
| (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | | nit | Unknown | |
| | | | | | iner Name | Unknown | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorr | ney Docket Number | Q79279 | |

| | | | U.S. | PATENT DOCUM | ENTS |
|--|--------------------------|---------|---|--------------------------------|---|
| | | Documen | t Number | | |
| | Cite No. ¹ | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Examiner Cite Initials* No.1 | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or | | |
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
| | | JP | 11-67348 | A | 03-09-1999 | | |
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| | | NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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